# MEMORIES & OBSERVATIONS



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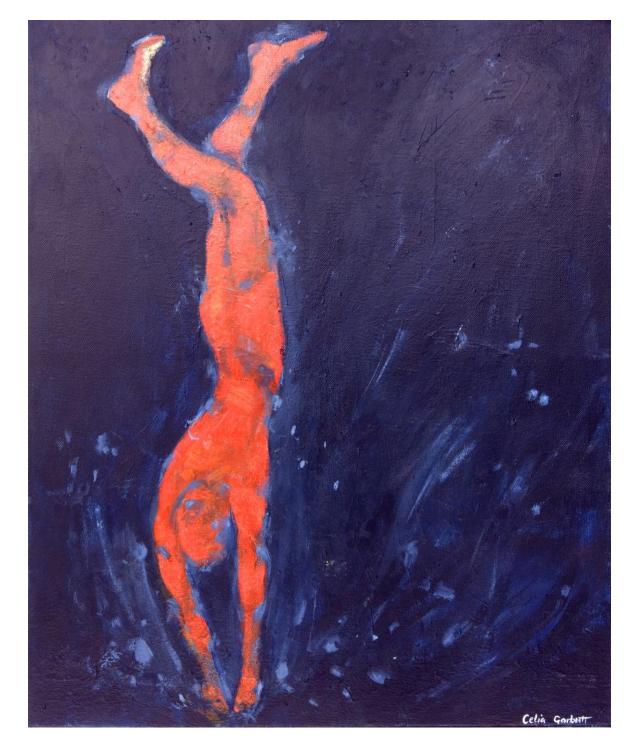
A collection of new paintings by Celia Garbutt

# CUIMHNEACHAN IS SEALLAIDHEAN

Tional dhealbhan ùra le Celia Garbutt

Saturday 14th Sept — 31st Oct 2013

RHUEART GALLERY,
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# MEMORIES & OBSERVATIONS CUIMHNEACHAN IS SEALLAIDHEAN

Starting a painting is a bit like going on a mystery tour. It's exciting, sometimes stressful, and I hope there's something interesting and surprising at the end of it.

I use acrylic paint because it's fast drying - making it easy to change the picture if I feel it's not working. I can respond quickly and intuitively, though not necessarily conclusively, to the painting itself. This process usually results in many layers of paint and a lot of frustrating moments.

Ideas for paintings come from many sources and times. 'Behind the Wall' is a response to a visit to Warsaw in 1981 when Poland was still a communist country, and I was a student on a scholarship from Glasgow School of Art. Painting still life, real or imagined, gives me the freedom to explore the relationship between colour and form in the context of objects to which I feel an affinity. "Tha thu air aigeann m' inntinn" / You are at the bottom of my mind, is the title of a poem (in Gaelic) by Iain Crichton Smith. Though I'm not a Gaelic speaker myself, my husband and sons are and I am always aware of the sounds of the language and its presence at home. A serial motif in my paintings is the horse. I have drawn and painted them since childhood. They seem to connect me to my past and at the same time can be an enigmatic harbinger of the future.

My paintings never quite seem to come to a conclusion; they continue to develop over time. Whilst ever I look at one, I may see additional possibilities or want to remove some of what's already there. When I finish it, that's what felt right at that time.











Three Lemons Trì liomaidean







In the still Morning 1 Sa mhadainn chiùin, a h-aon





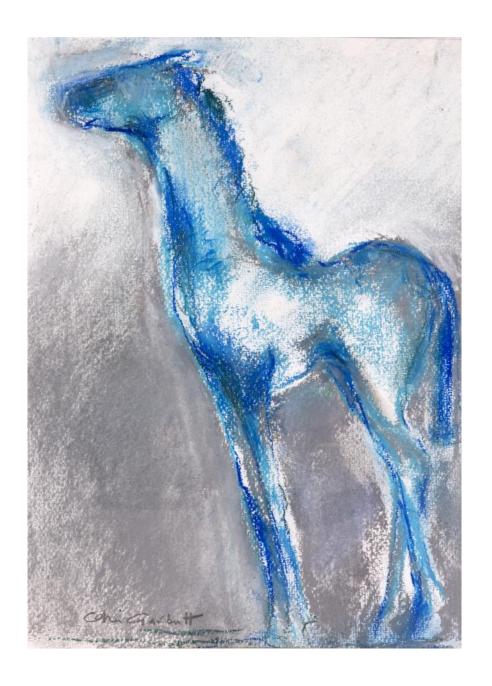




Blue Striped Jug Siuga gorm stiallach



Blue Horse I Each Gorm a h-aon Pastel on paper 28.5 x



Blue Horse II Each gorm, a-dhà Acrylic on Canvas 35.5 x 25.5





Sheep Dog II Cù-chaorach, a-dhà





# **ART EDUCATION**

1974-1975	Trent Polytechnic
1975-1978	BA (Honours) in Fine Art Newport College of Art Foundation Studies
1978-1979	Post-Graduate Diploma in Sculpture & Performance Glasgow School of Art
1981	Moved to Northwest Highlands

<b>EXHIBITIONS</b>	
2012	Members Show, An Talla Solais, Eden Court, Inverness
2011	RGI 150th Annual Exhibition, Glasgow
2011	Macphail Centre, Ullapool
2010	Members Show, An Talla Solais, Ullapool
2010	Affordable Art Fair, London
2010	Glasgow Art Fair
2009	Members Show, An Talla Solais, Ullapool
2009	Affordable Art Fair, London
2009	1979 to Present/Thuige Seo bho Thus, An Talla Solais, Ullapool
2007	Inverness Airport West Coast Open, An Talla Solais, Ullapool
2006	Ceilidh Place, Ullapool West Coast Open, An Talla Solais, Ullapool UHI Headquarters, Inverness
1996	Art Fair, Glasgow
1994	Ceilidh Place, Ullapool
1989	West Coast Art, Inverewe Gardens
1987	Working Pairs, Rufford Park, Nottingham
1986	Eden Court, Inverness
1985	Pastel Drawings, Ceilidh Place, Ullapool
1985	Scottish Sculpture Open, Kildrummy & Edinburgh Highland Council Touring Exhibition
1983	Midland Group Gallery, Nottingham
1981	Open Art, Sheffield Museum & Art Gallery
1980	Sculpture Show, Midland Group Gallery, Nottingham
1977	Young Contemporaries, Royal Academy, London

### **PERFORMANCES**

1981	'Supermarket' in About Time ICA, London & Arnofini, Bristol
1979	'Exercising for Childbirth' in New Contemporaries ICA, London
1979	'Hiawatha's Photographing' at the New Lanark Festival
1978	Performance Artist-in-Resident, North Gwent Arts Festival
1977	'Waterless Method of Swimming Instruction', in New Contemporaries, ICA, London

## **AWARDS**

1986	Exhibition grant from Scottish Arts Council
1983	Studio Grant from Workshop & Artists Studio Provision Scotland
1979	Travel Scholarship to Poland from Glasgow School of Art
1979	Performance Prize, New Contemporaries, ICA
1977	Performance Prize, New Contemporaries, ICA

## **COLLECTIONS**

City of Sheffield Highland Council

Various private collections

## 'Farthest North'

encapsulates many aspects of Celia's work. There is narrative. There is mastery in the portrayal of the fleeting moment. There is the invocation of feelings of longing. And there is the intuitive use of colour that heightens all those things as a small dog looks to – or for – its master, who stands beyond a stripped back wood. There is pattern within the contours that bind the blues of winter, as gold leaf darts between the branches.

[Mandy Henderson in 'Northings' (Hi-Arts) 2 August 2011]



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